

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

1-13. (Cancelled).

Please add new claims 14-32 as follows:

14. (New) An adapter for coupling a laser processing device to an object, said adapter comprising:

a central region movable into a laser beam path of a laser processing device;

an illumination beam path through which illumination radiation can be guided for illumination of an object field of an object, the object field coverable by said central region; and

a peripheral region located outside said central region by which the adapter can be mounted on at least one of the object or the laser processing device, wherein said illumination beam path is guided in said peripheral region and carries said illumination radiation, coupled into said peripheral region, to said object field in at least one of the following ways: directly and via said central region.

15. (New) The adapter of claim 14, wherein said central region comprises a contact glass to be placed on the object and said peripheral region comprises a contact glass mount.

16. (New) The adapter of claim 15, wherein an adhesive layer is provided between said contact glass mount and said contact glass, said adhesive layer having a refractive index intermediate the refractive index of said contact glass mount and said contact glass.

17. (New) The adapter of claim 15, wherein said mount comprises a material transparent for illumination radiation, the material selected from the group consisting of: PMMA, polycarbonate, HW 55, and any combinations thereof.

18. (New) The adapter of claim 14, further comprising a coupling unit for said illumination radiation, said coupling unit being provided at said peripheral region.

19. (New) The adapter of claim 18, wherein said coupling unit comprises an imaging effect for said illumination radiation and comprises an interface selected from the group consisting of: a convex interface, a concave interface, a cylindrical interface, a toroidal interface, and any combinations thereof.

20. (New) The adapter of claim 19, further comprising a reflecting surface and a plurality of coupling units, wherein said reflecting surface is segmented into facets and wherein each coupling unit has one or more of said facets assigned to it.

21. (New) The adapter of claim 18, wherein said coupling unit comprises a dielectric layer for spectral filtering or reduction of reflections.

22. (New) The adapter of claim 18, wherein said coupling unit comprises a LED mounted to or embedded in said peripheral region.

23. (New) The adapter of claim 22, wherein annular contacts enabling contact to be made in any rotary position relative to the laser processing device are provided at said peripheral region.

24. (New) The adapter of claim 14, wherein said peripheral region comprises an outside surface that reflects said illumination radiation.

25. (New) The adapter of claim 24, wherein said reflecting surface has an imaging effect for said illumination radiation.

26. (New) The adapter of claim 14, wherein said central and peripheral regions are integral.

27. (New) An adapter for coupling a laser processing device to an object, said adapter comprising:

a central region movable into a laser beam path of a laser processing device;

an illumination beam path through which illumination radiation can be guided for illumination of an object field of an object, said object field coverable by said central region; and

a peripheral region exterior said central region,

wherein the adapter can be mounted on at least one of the object or the laser processing device, and

wherein said illumination beam path can be guided in said peripheral region and carries said illumination radiation to said object field directly or through said central region.

28. (New) The adapter of claim 27, wherein said central region comprises a contact glass operably coupleable to a contact glass mount provided at said peripheral region, and wherein an adhesive layer is provided between said contact glass mount and said contact glass, said adhesive layer having a refractive index intermediate the refractive index of said contact glass mount and said contact glass.

29. (New) The adapter of claim 27, further comprising a coupling unit for said illumination radiation, said coupling unit being provided at said peripheral region.

30. (New) The adapter of claim 29, wherein said coupling unit comprises an imaging effect for said illumination radiation and comprises an interface selected from the group consisting of: a convex interface, a concave interface, a cylindrical interface, a toroidal interface, and any combinations thereof.

31. (New) The adapter of claim 30, further comprising a reflecting surface and a plurality of coupling units, wherein said reflecting surface is segmented into facets and wherein each coupling unit has one or more of said facets assigned to it.

32. (New) The adapter of claim 27, wherein said peripheral region comprises an outside surface that reflects said illumination radiation, said outside surface comprising an imaging effect for said illumination radiation.